

Senate File 2151 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2151

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the determination of funding for the
2 statewide preschool program for four-year-old children and
3 including applicability provisions.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256C.5, subsection 1, paragraphs c and d,
2 Code 2022, are amended to read as follows:

3 c. *"Preschool budget enrollment"* means the figure that is
4 equal to ~~fifty percent of~~ the actual enrollment of eligible
5 students in the preschool programming provided by a school
6 district approved to participate in the preschool program on
7 October 1 of the base year, or the first Monday in October
8 if October 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, but for school
9 budget years beginning on or after July 1, 2023, not less than
10 the actual enrollment of eligible students in the preschool
11 programming provided by the approved school district as
12 determined under this paragraph for the school year preceding
13 the base year.

14 d. (1) *"Preschool foundation aid"* means the product of
15 the regular program state cost per pupil for the budget year
16 multiplied by the school district's preschool budget enrollment
17 plus any preschool on-time funding budget adjustment under
18 subparagraph (2), if applicable.

19 (2) (a) For the school budget year beginning July 1, 2023,
20 and succeeding budget years, if a district's actual enrollment
21 of eligible students in the preschool programming for the
22 budget year, determined under paragraph "c", is greater than the
23 school district's preschool budget enrollment for the budget
24 year, the district shall be eligible to receive a preschool
25 on-time funding budget adjustment. The adjustment shall be in
26 an amount equal to the difference between the actual enrollment
27 for the budget year and the budget enrollment for the budget
28 year, multiplied by the regular program state cost per pupil.

29 (b) The board of directors of a school district that wishes
30 to receive a preschool on-time funding budget adjustment shall
31 adopt a resolution to receive the adjustment and notify the
32 school budget review committee annually, but not earlier than
33 November 1, as determined by the department of education. If
34 the school budget review committee determines that a need
35 exists for the budget adjustment, the committee shall approve

1 the request and amount pursuant to this subparagraph.

2 Sec. 2. Section 256C.5, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code
3 2022, is amended to read as follows:

4 a. For the initial school year for which a school district
5 approved to participate in the preschool program receives that
6 approval and implements the preschool program, ~~the funding for~~
7 ~~the preschool foundation aid payable to that school district~~
8 ~~shall be paid from the appropriation made for that school year~~
9 ~~in section 256C.6, Code 2011, or in another appropriation~~
10 ~~made for purposes of this chapter. For that school year, the~~
11 preschool foundation aid payable to the school district is
12 the product of the regular program state cost per pupil for
13 the school year multiplied by ~~sixty percent of the school~~
14 ~~district's eligible student enrollment on the date in the~~
15 school year determined by rule.

16 Sec. 3. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies July 1, 2023, for
17 school budget years beginning on or after that date.

18 EXPLANATION

19 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
20 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

21 This bill relates to the determination of funding for the
22 statewide preschool program for four-year-old children.

23 Generally, the “preschool budget enrollment” definition used
24 to determine school district funding for an approved preschool
25 program under Code chapter 256C is the figure that is equal to
26 50 percent of the actual enrollment of eligible students in the
27 preschool programming provided by a school district approved
28 to participate in the preschool program on October 1 of the
29 base year. The bill increases the 50 percent amount to 100
30 percent. The bill also provides that, for school budget years
31 beginning on or after July 1, 2023, that figure shall be not
32 less than the actual enrollment of eligible students in the
33 preschool programming provided by the approved school district
34 as determined under Code section 256C.5(1)(c) for the school
35 year preceding the base year.

1 The bill also establishes a preschool on-time funding budget
2 adjustment for budget years beginning on or after July 1, 2023.
3 The bill allows for the adjustment of a school district's
4 preschool foundation aid amount if requested by a school
5 district and approved by the school budget review committee.
6 The adjustment is allowed if a district's actual enrollment of
7 eligible students in the preschool programming for the budget
8 year is greater than the school district's preschool budget
9 enrollment for the budget year. The adjustment shall be in an
10 amount equal to the difference between the actual enrollment
11 for the budget year and the budget enrollment for the budget
12 year, multiplied by the regular program state cost per pupil.
13 The bill also modifies provisions governing the funding
14 for a school district's first year of participation in the
15 statewide preschool program.
16 The bill applies July 1, 2023, for school budget years
17 beginning on or after that date.